



HEALTHYHOMES

Healthy Families | Healthy Children



# **Healthy Homes, Healthy Families, Healthy Communities**

## **Update on HUD Programs & Appropriations To Carry Out Health and Housing Services**

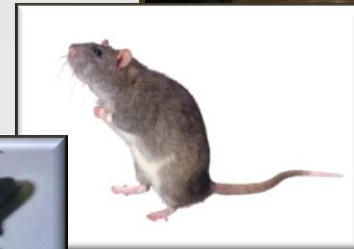
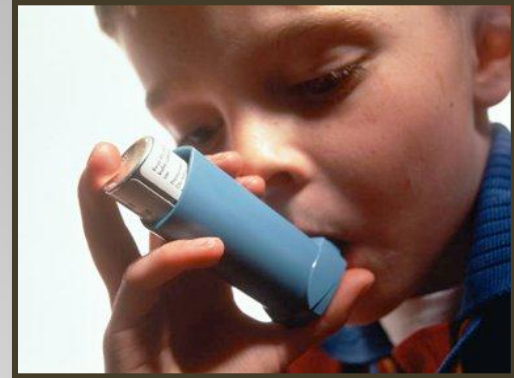
**Myrna Pascual for**

**Karen Griego, Healthy Homes Representative**

**US HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control**

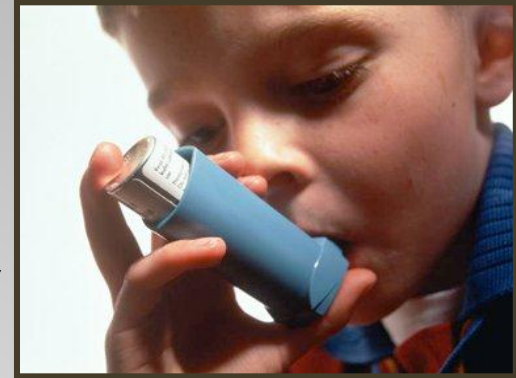
# This Story Happens Every Day:

*A young child has an asthma attack, is taken to the ER. The mother has to take off work, the child misses school. This cycle happens several times each year. The child is put on long-term maintenance medication for asthma.*



# This Story Happens Every Day:

- This family's home has substantial mold hazards created when the hot water heater broke, has water leaks and intrusion, has evidence of pests, has little exhaust or air exchange, and other problems.
- However, the home environment was not considered in the evaluation of asthma "triggers"
- This results in excessive and avoidable costs—costs absorbed by residents, taxpayers, and the health care sector.



- 90% of our time is spent indoors – 2/3 of that in the home
- Critical role in the health, growth and safety of children
- Long-standing historical connection between housing and health
  - Poor housing conditions are associated with a wide range of health conditions – PREVENTABLE health conditions
- Too often we hear tragic stories resulting from common hazards, preventable hazards, that affect the health and safety of residents
- Health Burden = Economic Burden
  - The economic burden from housing-related illnesses and injuries reaches billions of dollars per year

## Why Focus on Housing?



- Approximately 30 million U.S. housing units have significant physical, chemical and/or radiological problems that place their occupants at risk for illnesses and injuries.
  - Nearly 6 million U.S. housing units have moderate to severe physical housing problems
  - About 24 million housing units have one or more lead-based paint hazards. Of these homes, 1.2 million house low income households with one or more children under age six
  - More than 6.8 million housing units have radon exposures above the current EPA action level.
  - In addition, in over 86 million homes, allergen levels are at levels associated with doctor-diagnosed allergies.

## The Need for Healthier Housing



- \$76.6 billion spent in 2008 for select health endpoints
  - Lead poisoning: \$50.9 billion
  - Intellectual disability: \$5.4 billion
  - Exposure to mercury (methyl mercury): \$5.1 billion
  - Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: \$5.0 billion
  - Asthma: \$2.2 billion
  - Childhood cancer: \$95.0 million
  - Others \$7.9 billion
- Accounts for 3.5% of health care expenditures in 2008

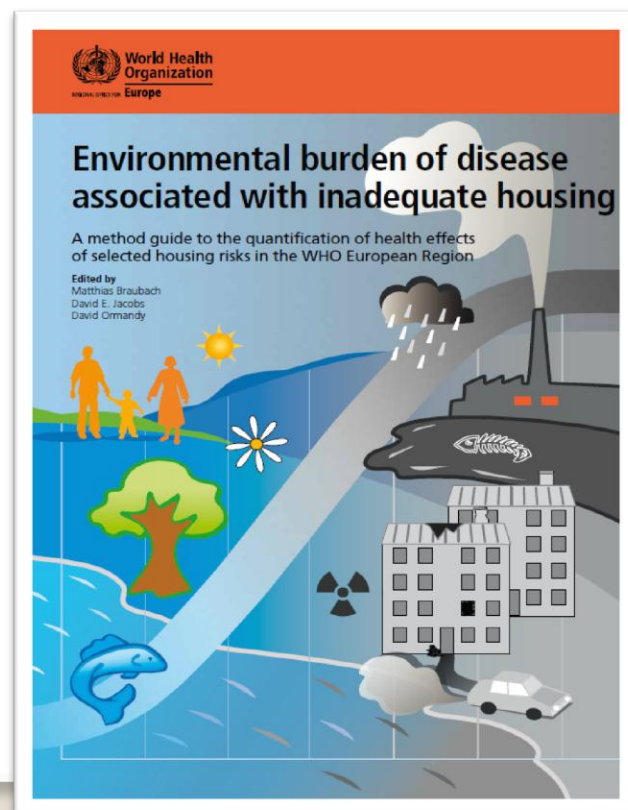
## Costs of Environmental Illness





# Housing-Specific Burdens

- **Housing-specific exposure-response relationships have been limited in the past**
- **Increased awareness now shifting the tide**
- **Inadequate housing issues are numerous**
  - **Indoor dampness/mold**
  - **Home injury**
  - **Crowding**
  - **Indoor cold**
  - **Traffic noise**
  - **Second-hand smoke**
  - **Radon**
  - **Lead**
  - **CO**
  - **Formaldehyde**
  - **Housing quality**



- Health Burden = Economic Burden
  - Financial consequences are substantial
  - Example:
    - \$3.5 billion per year from asthma due to dampness and mold in homes (Mudarri, 2007)
    - \$217 billion from unintentional injuries in the home (Zaloshnja, 2005)
    - \$1.1 million annually per lung cancer death due to elevated radon levels in the home (Mason, 2010; EPA, 1992)

## Societal Burden from Inadequate Housing





- Every dollar spent to reduce lead hazards cuts healthcare costs by an average of \$119 nationally.
- Every dollar spent to reduce asthma triggers in homes cuts health care costs by an average of \$10.
- By comparison, every dollar spent on childhood immunizations reduces healthcare costs by an average of \$11.

## Healthy Housing Makes Economic Sense



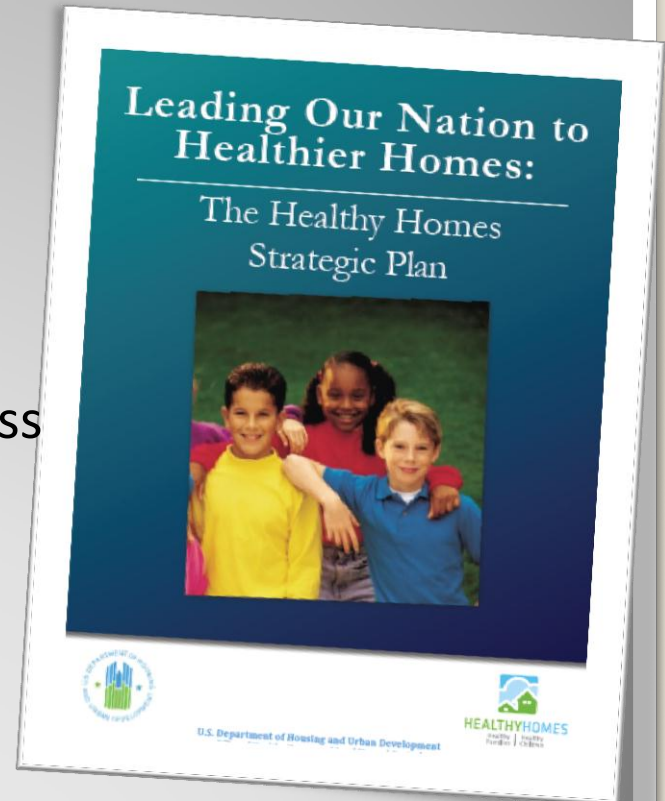
- Today, you can almost predict the health of an individual based upon their zip code.
- Far too many of our homes don't meet basic healthy homes principles - **dry, clean, ventilated, free from pests and contaminants, well-maintained, and safe.**
- Need focus on prevention/upstream solutions to down stream problems
- House is a system – problems are inter-related

## **Need for Better Solutions**



# How is HUD Taking Action?

- ❖ ***Building a National Framework:*** Foster partnerships for implementing a healthy homes agenda.
- ❖ ***Creating Healthy Housing through Key Research:*** Support strategic, focused research on links between housing and health and cost-effective methods to address hazards.
- ❖ ***Mainstreaming the Healthy Homes Approach:*** Promote the incorporation of healthy homes principles into ongoing practices and programs.
- ❖ ***Enabling Communities to Create and Sustain Healthy Homes Programs:*** Build sustainable local healthy homes programs.



- HUD 2010-2015 Strategic Plan
- Focus on people goals and place-based goals
- Health outcomes are a key part of two Strategic Goals:
  - Utilize HUD-funded housing assistance to improve health outcomes
    - Focus on implementing HH housing management practices (reduction in use of high-cost health services / prevalence and severity of asthma in HUD housing)
  - Promote energy efficient buildings and locations for efficient communities that are healthy, affordable and diverse.
    - Improve residents' health and safety (reduce the number of homes with indoor environmental hazards)

## Using Housing as a Platform for Improving Health



- Memorandum from HUD Deputy Secretary to all HUD Programs:

“In order to achieve these new housing-related health goals, and meet existing regulatory requirements, the Department’s major programs must establish internal goals that will be implemented aggressively and tracked to assess progress. Your offices also must incorporate health-related goals and targets into your Management Plans and propose such goals for upcoming Annual Plans.”

## Using Housing as a Platform for Improving Health



- Support/fund local healthy homes and lead hazard control grant programs
- Two General Section Policy Priorities around Health/Housing/Energy Efficiency = up to 4 points in competitive NOFA's FY '14
- Establish a Healthyhomes.gov (healthyhomes.hud.gov) webpage to act a "one-stop" shop for healthy homes information
- Issue Federal Interagency Healthy Homes Strategy for Action
- Host regional "payer" workshops to fund asthma case management/home intervention activities through flexibilities of the Affordable Care Act
- Procuring a Pay for Success (a.k.a. Social Impact Bond) Contract – Asthma Demonstration Project
- National Healthy Homes Conference –Nashville May 2014
- Smoke-Free Public and MF Housing Policies
- Post Disaster Housing Repair and Restoration & Recovery Guide for Consumers

## **Housing as a Platform for Improving Health - FY2013 HUD HH Action Items**

# HUD Notices

- 2009 and 2012: HUD Office of Public and Indian Housing (HUD Notice PIH-2009-21 and PIH-2012-25) “strongly encourages Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to implement non-smoking policies in some or all of their public housing units”. Developed with PIH and OHHLHC collaboration.
- September, 2010 and October 2012: HUD Office of Housing issued notice (H-2010-21) for owners/managers of federally subsidized private housing encouraging the adoption of smoke-free policies in some or all of their properties. Notice was reissued in 2012 with no expiration date (H 2012-22).



- Funding Opportunities (~\$110M)
  - Healthy Homes Technical Studies Program
  - Lead Hazard Control/Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program with Healthy Homes Supplemental Funding
    - [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
    - General Section of FY 2014 NOFA's published in Federal Register February 26

## **Housing as a Platform for Improving Health - *FY2014 HUD HH Action Items***



- Promote health and housing stability of vulnerable populations
  - Processes to assess health care needs (health insurance status) and direct clients appropriately
  - Target & prioritize high-need clients
  - Evidence partnerships with health care organizations

## **HUD Policy Priorities – Health/Housing/Energy Efficiency**



- Increase the health & safety of homes and embed comprehensive energy efficiency and healthy housing criteria across HUD Programs
  - Is applicant a HUD/DOE Better Buildings Challenge Partner? and/or
  - Does the applicant incorporate a green building standard and renewable energy? AND
  - Has the applicant developed a comprehensive assessment protocol of homes for rehab, health and energy deficiencies
    - *Promote coordinated planning, integrating federal resources, and targeting technical assistance at the local, state, and regional levels for sustainable housing and communities*

## HUD Policy Priorities – Health/Housing/Energy Efficiency

- Integration/coordination with weatherization programs
- Integration into ongoing public and private sector housing practices, programs, and delivery systems;
- Expansion of “Green” to include healthy, including expansion of health and safety into weatherization programs (Green and Healthy Homes Initiative pilot work);
- Recognizes and rewards local governments and their non-profit partners that are working together to provide citizen centered, building based interventions;
- Certifies that a community (applicant) is coordinating home interventions across housing, health and energy programs.

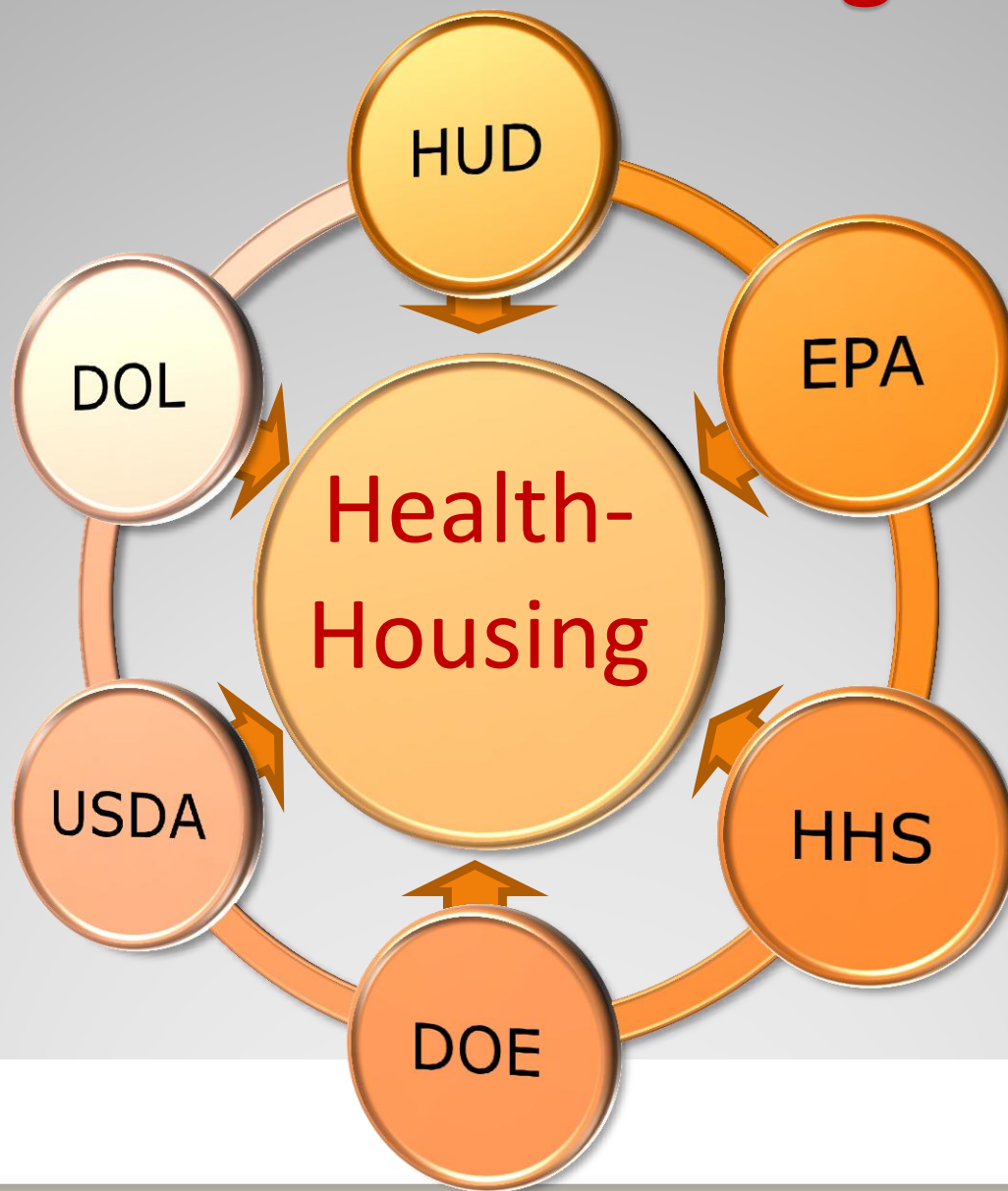
## Progress Toward HUD Policy Priorities

- Identify communities that have created partnerships between public entities and/or non-profit or for-profit sector partners to address multiple housing deficiencies in the areas of health, safety, energy efficiency, and housing rehabilitation



**Health/Housing/Energy PURPOSE**

# Federal Partners Working Together



- Implementation of the Federal Radon Action Plan
- Coordinated Federal Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Asthma Disparities
- Health Insurance Coverage of Services Critical to Asthma Care: *Pilot Summits held last FY*
- Federal Healthy Homes Work Group/Federal Strategy to Advance Healthy Housing
  - *Strategy for Action*

## Federal Collaboration on Health-Housing



- HUD created Federal Interagency HH Work Group
  - Participants: HUD, CDC (and other parts of HHS), EPA, DOE, DOL, USDA
  - Reduce barriers / promote collaboration / work across silos
- HHWG developed a “*Strategy for Action*”
  - Unifies federal action to advance healthy housing
- ***Vision: Achieve meaningful reductions in the number of American homes with residential health and safety hazards.***

## Healthy Homes Work Group



- **Expected Outcomes:**

- Decrease # of homes with severe/moderate physical hazards and other housing-related health hazards
- Increase integration of healthy homes principles into federal housing programs (e.g., smoke-free housing, integrated pest management, radon reduction)
- Improve specific health outcomes among children living in homes where housing based health hazards have been remediated

## **Federal Strategy for Action To Advance Healthy Housing**

